



NCTA

NATIONAL CABLE & TELECOMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION

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December 9, 2004

EX PARTE

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: CS Docket No. 97-80

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Wednesday, December 8, 2004, Robert Sachs, President and CEO of the National Cable & Telecommunications Association ("NCTA"), Dan Brenner, NCTA's Senior Vice President, Law & Regulatory Policy, Diane Burstein, NCTA's Deputy General Counsel, and I met with Chairman Michael K. Powell, Bryan Tramont, Chief of Staff, and Jonathan Cody, Legal Advisor to the Chairman. During the meeting, we discussed why the July 2006 ban on cable operator deployment of integrated set-top boxes should be eliminated. The discussion reflected the arguments previously made by NCTA and others in written submissions in the above-referenced docket.

Sincerely,

/s/ Neal M. Goldberg

Neal M. Goldberg

cc: Chairman Powell
B. Tramont
J. Cody